

**CONCLUSION**

For the above stated reasons, in addition to the reasons given in the reply mailed September 27, 2002, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance, and such action at an early date is earnestly requested. If, however, there are any outstanding issues that could usefully be discussed by telephone, the Examiner is asked to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Mauri L. Aven

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